



U.S. Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Maryland Man Sentenced For Making Illegal Payment To D.C. Tax Collector In Anticipation of Erasing Brother's Tax Liability**

WASHINGTON - Haadis Ketema, 45, of Glenarden, Md., was sentenced today to 12 months of probation and a \$2,500 fine after earlier pleading guilty to a charge that he gave \$4,000 to a District of Columbia tax collector in hopes of erasing a record pertaining to his brother's tax liability, announced U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and James W. McJunkin, Assistant Director in Charge of the FBI's Washington Field Office.

Ketema was sentenced by the Honorable Magistrate Judge Alan Kay in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. He pled guilty on August 23, 2010 to a charge most commonly known as supplementation of salary.

According to information submitted to the court by Assistant U.S. Attorney Sherri L. Schornstein, Ketema met on January 19, 2007 with a tax collector for the D.C. Office of Tax and Revenue. During the meeting at Union Station, Ketema gave the tax collector \$4,000 in cash to change a computer record of the District of Columbia. The doctored record would show that a tax liability of a business then owned by Ketema's brother was no longer outstanding.

In announcing today's sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen and Assistant Director McJunkin commended the work of the Special Agents from the FBI's Washington Field Office, who investigated the case, and the staff of the U.S. Attorney's Office, including Paralegals Diane Hayes and Carolyn Cody and Assistant U.S. Attorney Schornstein, who prosecuted the matter.

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